

Water Loss Performance Standards: Overview and Timeline

Regulatory framework

2020 Adoption of regulation for urban retail water suppliers¹

Summary of the proposed regulatory framework

- Compliance with individual volumetric standards based on economic model for leak detection and repair actions by 2028.
- Post-2028 compliance with volumetric standards on a three-year average basis with an allowed variation of 5 gallons per connection per day over three years.
- Compliance includes responses to questions on (a) water loss data quality in 2022, and feasibility of (b) pressure management and (c) systematic asset management in 2024.
- Off-ramp process for suppliers with low real loss and high data quality.
- Adjustment process to include changes to underlying supplier data in the economic model.
- Variance process to accommodate non-compliance due to adverse economic conditions.

Post-Adoption Implementation

<i>July 1, 2022</i>	<p><i>Suppliers shall meet requirements for data submission requirements</i> Suppliers submit responses to questions on metering practices and data handling that influence data quality for water loss audits.</p> <p><i>Suppliers may request adjustments to their standards</i> Suppliers will be required to provide supporting documentation on proposed system-specific data by this date.</p> <p><i>Suppliers may request an off-ramp if they meet data quality criteria</i> Suppliers will be required to meet data quality criteria to verify their real loss level by this date.</p>
<i>January 1, 2024</i>	<p><i>Inclusion of allowable water loss volume in Urban Water Use Objective</i> Suppliers calculate their urban water use objective (pursuant to AB 1668 and SB 606, 2018), including the assigned water loss standard.</p>
<i>July 1, 2024</i>	<p><i>Submit responses on feasibility of water loss control approaches</i> Suppliers submit responses to questions on the feasibility of implementing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pressure management ▪ Prioritized and systematic asset management
<i>July 1, 2027</i>	<p><i>Submit updated responses on feasibility of water loss control approaches</i> Suppliers submit responses to additional questions based on field experience on the feasibility of implementing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pressure management ▪ Prioritized and systematic asset management
<i>January 1, 2028</i>	<p><i>Water loss reduction</i> Suppliers begin compliance with volumetric standard for 2028 on a three-year average basis with an allowed variation of 5 gallons per connection per day of the supplier’s volumetric standard within the three years.</p>

¹ “Urban retail water supplier” means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

Next steps and tentative timeline

Mid-April, 2020	Publicly release proposed draft economic model, draft regulatory framework and draft data submission requirements
May 1, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Conduct stakeholder meeting to overview draft economic model, draft framework and draft data submission requirements▪ Begin formal comment period (pre-rulemaking)
Mid-May, 2020	End of comment period
June 1, 2020	Initiate formal rulemaking
November 2020	Potential adoption of regulation